

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS
DENOUNCING ANTISEMITISM, DENOUNCING ISLAMOPHOBIA, DENOUNCING
THE HAMAS TERRORIST ATTACKS OF OCTOBER 7, 2023, AND REAFFIRMING
EVERY PERSON'S RIGHT TO SAFETY AND RIGHT TO LIVE WITHOUT FEAR OF
VIOLENCE OR INTIMIDATION REGARDLESS OF RACE, CREED, RELIGION,
ETHNICITY, AND PERSONAL EXPRESSION OF BELIEFS.**

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2023, Hamas committed a heinous act of terrorism, whose primary intention was to commit atrocities on noncombatants, and which terrorist acts were motivated by antisemitism;

WHEREAS, at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Los Altos held on November 14, 2023, members of the City Council and members of the public who spoke during public comment condemned Hamas' acts of terror and its taking of more than two-hundred hostages;

WHEREAS, in the aftermath of October 7, 2023, the Los Altos City Council recognizes that members of the Los Altos community have experienced acts of anti-Semitism and acts of Islamophobia;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Los Altos recognizes and affirms all of its residents' right to live in safety, without fear of violence, intimidation, or threat, based on their religious beliefs or how they choose to express those beliefs;

WHEREAS, in Resolution 2017-07, the City Council of the City of Los Altos adopted a resolution reaffirming its commitment to a diverse, supportive, and inclusive community by:

1. Rejecting bigotry in all its forms, including antisemitism and Islamophobia;
2. Not tolerating discrimination, hate crimes, harassment or assault;
3. Opposing any attempt to undermine the safety, security, and rights of members of our community;
4. Recognizing, valuing and proactively working to ensure the rights and privileges of everyone in Los Altos regardless of religion; and
5. Obligating the City to promote actual safety, a sense of security, and equal protection of constitutional and human rights.

WHEREAS, in Resolution 2021-17, the City Council of the City of Los Altos cited resolution 2017-07 in denouncing intimidation, aggression and violence against members of the Asian American and Pacific Islander Community;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Los Altos and the Los Altos City Council:

1. Denounces Hamas as a terrorist organization, as recognized by the federal government of the United States of America, and specifically denounces Hamas' heinous and antisemitic terrorist attack and the taking of hostages on October 7, 2023;
2. Affirms that support for the Palestinian people is not the same as support for Hamas and categorically denounces the notion that anyone supports terrorism because of their faith or the manner in which they choose to express their faith;
3. Recognizes that members of the Los Altos Jewish and Muslim communities are hurt, anxious, and scared;
4. Affirms that the City of Los Altos and the City Council stand united with all its residents to promote unity and to respect the rights of every person in Los Altos to practice and express their faith freely, openly, and without fear of violence, intimidation, or threat.
5. Denounces and condemns antisemitism and Islamophobia;
6. Denounces and condemns all acts of violence, intimidation, and threat against any member of the Jewish or Muslim faiths;
7. Reaffirms that everyone has the right to express their religious beliefs – including but not limited to their manner of dress or the display of religious icons;
8. Promotes the actual safety, a sense of security, and equal protection of constitutional and human rights for all persons of the Jewish faith and for all persons of the Muslim faith within the City of Los Altos; and
9. Calls upon all members of the Los Altos community to respect and listen to the concerns of others, to seek understanding, and to do their part to protect their neighbors' sense of physical and emotional security, as well as their own.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Los Altos at a meeting thereof on the 11th day of December, 2023 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Jonathan D. Weinberg
MAYOR

Attest:

Melissa Thurman, MMC
CITY CLERK